

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An article for clamping a plurality of objects together, comprising:
a body portion, comprised of spring wire, formed in a generally
c-shape, including:
5 a pair of side portions;
an intermediate portion, extending between and interconnecting the
pair of side portions; and
a pair of opposed free end portions, extending from the pair of side
portions and opposite the intermediate portion, and forming a gap therebetween;
10 wherein the pair of opposed free end portions are resiliently biased
toward a position proximate each other and spaced apart to the extent of the gap
therebetween, and are adapted to be expanded away from each other upon the
exertion of expansion pressure on the pair of side portions, so as to extend about the
plurality of objects to be clamped between the pair of opposed free end portions,
15 and to resiliently compress towards each other and return to the resiliently biased
position thereof to exert pressure on and clamp the plurality of objects between the
pair of opposed free end portions upon the release of the expansion pressure and
compression of the pair of side portions responsive thereto.
2. The article of claim 1, wherein each of the pair of side portions and
20 the intermediate portion includes a generally straight portion thereof.
3. The article of claim 1, wherein each of the pair of side portions
includes a portion adapted to enable engagement thereof and pressure to be exerted
thereon for expansion of the clamping article.

4. The article of claim 1, wherein the intermediate portion includes a medial portion generally curved inwardly towards the pair of opposed free end portions.

5 5. The article of claim 1, wherein the body portion is formed in a generally block-c-shape.

6. The article of claim 1, wherein the body portion is generally round in cross-section.

7. The article of claim 1, wherein the plurality of objects adapted to be clamped between the pair of opposed free ends comprise a plurality of generally flat
10 objects.

8. The article of claim 1, wherein the pair of opposed free ends extend substantially in the plane of the pair of side portions and the intermediate portion.

9. The article of claim 1, wherein the pair of opposed free end portions are substantially aligned.

15 10. The article of claim 3, wherein the pressure exertion enabling portion of each of the pair of side portions is generally curved outwardly away from the opposite side portion.

11. The article of claim 4, wherein the generally inwardly curved medial portion of the intermediate portion is adapted to enable the return of the article to the resiliently biased position upon the release of expansion pressure.

12. The article of claim 5, wherein the pair of opposed free end portions are adapted to be aligned, and the generally block-c-shape of the article is adapted to maintain the alignment of the pair of opposed free end portions.

13. The article of claim 7, wherein the generally outwardly curved portion of each of the pair of side portions is located proximate the opposed free end portion extending therefrom.

10 14. The article of claim 7, wherein the generally outwardly curved pressure exertion enabling portions of the pair of side portions are adapted to provide leverage for enabling the exertion of expansion pressure thereon.